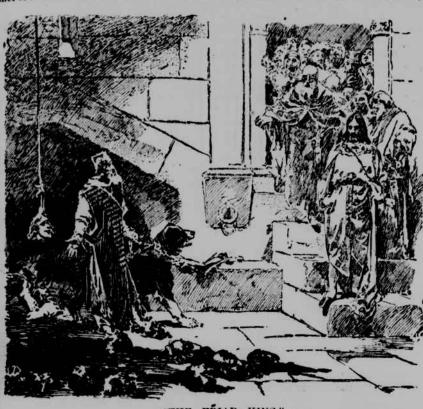
THE SPANIARD.

SOME TRAITS WHICH EXPLAIN HIS WILL-INGNESS TO FIGHT FOR CUBA.

A LOVE OF STRIFE—THE LESSON OF THE BULL-FIGHT—THE KING'S BELL.

As the struggle between Spain and Cuba continues, and reaches a crisis out of which it seems improbable that either combatant could gain very much just now, the Anglo-Saxon observer finds himself wondering why the fight is proceuted anyway. One of the commonest questions of the day is that which asks the reason for Spanish perseverance at a time when there seems to be every legitimate reason in the world for abandoning her efforts to retain Cuba. She has sunk millions of money and many lives in this war. The Philippine Islands are at present almost as unprofitable to her as Cuba. The obvious thing for her to do avould seem to be to give up her colonies and devote herself to internal reforms. This is the practical course advised by those who are most in sympathy with the gentus of the Spanish people. But all the time there are traits to be reckoned with among the Spanish people. But all the time there are traits to be reckoned with among the Spanish models. The same thirst lurks in his heart. He thinks if it squenched, but it lives there still, and probably with the gentus of the Spanish people. But all the time there are traits to be reckoned with among the Spanish people. But all the time there are traits to be reckoned with among the Spanish people. But all the time there are traits to be reckoned with among the Spanish people. But all the time there are traits to be reckoned with among the Spanish people. But all the time there are traits to be reckoned with among the Spanish changes. The main point was that her particular performance was amusing, and with performance was amusing, and with performance was amusing, and with the gentus of the Spanish colony. The drivers and heterotrains to due to the trains to change and the proposed of the Spanish relapsed to the average man with the gentus of the Spanish country side, and witness the attitude of the average man witness



"THE FRIAR KING."

than luxuriant and delightful. What it is interesting to point out is that the Spaniards have a hard land to live in, and that they grow up, as a nation, inured to poverty and labor. They are taught suffering to begin with. Overlay upon this stern foundation the barbaric tastes which have belonged to the Spaniards from time cial, and is it surprising that they perend? Take the most familiar of all their amusements, the bull ring. The vast crowds which it brings together are perhaps the most artlessly brutal gatherings in the world. Men and women alike gaze with the most childlike absorption, with a sort of naive glee, upon spectacles so revolting that the Anglo-Saxon surgeon, accustomed to the most horrible sights of the dissecting room, might well wince before them. Of recent years, and especially in quarters where the influence of the Queen Regent is sympathetically recognized, Spaniards of the better class have regarded it as "bad form" to attend the performances in the bull ring. But one who has made his observations in all classes of Spanish society has failed to find anywhere in the Peninsula a protest against the sport that rang true. It is unquestionable that the lower classes are the chief supporters of the ring, but the middle classes are almost as assiduous in attendance upon the great performances. When they are absent it is because a wave of desire to be "respectable" has passed over some particular locality or some special subdivision of society. Spain as a nation has a taste for the bull ring in its blood, and though it can often suppress that taste, it has not yet

But the bull ring, after all, is only the most obvious illustration of Spanish fierceness of temper, Spanish indifference to pain and to the infliction of it. Look at the art of the past or present! Velasquez is the master of Spanish painting, but the most popular of the old masters was Ribera, who delighted in the portrayal of emaciated martyrs, saints on the rack, and such scenes from Biblical literature as were sure to harrow up the beholder. The first of the modern men to arise, Goya, was capable of painting delicate and attractive subjects, and ometimes chose them; but more often he gave his art to the celebration of grisly horrors. The painters of the past generation or two have covered miles of canvas with battle scenes, gladiatorial combats, episodes from the bloodiest pages of Spanish history. Any student of contemporary Spanish painting will recall the prevalence of sombre tones in private and public salleries. With few exceptions the artists have dipped their brushes in blood. The picture which we reproduce offers a case in point. The painter, Casado del Alisal, was addicted to ensanguined themes, and in his masterpiece, "The Friar King," he fairly bathes his art in gore. The hero of this canvas, Ramiro II, King of Arragon, was annoyed by the turbulence and insubordination of his nobles. He resolved to orge a great bell in the blood of his rebellious subjects and to thus embody in its sound a menace to the entire realm. He commanded his vassals to attend a banquet at Huesca, his cap-Ital, and in the midst of the revelry invited them to descend to the vaults of the palace, where they might see the completed bell of which they ad heard. There the guests were terrified to behold the bodies of fifteen of their number, the heads lying in gory confusion on the pavement. with the exception of that of a certain archbishop, which had been suspended by a rope from the ceiling. "This is the bell of 'Huesca," said the King, "by which refractory subjects

eradicated it.

The tale is in itself significant. Thus have Spanish kings dealt with their enemies. And it is over such tragedies that the painters love to linger. Has not this some bearing on the present eagerness of the people to fight for Cuba until the last drop of blood is exhausted? In Madrid, when the guard is changed every morning at the Royal Palace the people crowd with avidity to the wide court set apart for the ceremony. It

unyleiding and even bloody strife. It is, perhaps, too much to say baldly that the war in Cuba is kept up because a Spaniard loves the smell of blood; but it may with justice be held that the sanguinary impetus having once been given there is something in the Spanish nature which makes it hard to resist the call to battle. Spain is a paradox. There is sunlight all over the country, and particularly in the southern provinces. In Andalusia there are scenes of the gayest character, scenes calculated to built the native into a mood of peace and contentment. But even in Andalusia the struggle between fertility and barrenness is constant. Nowhere in Spain is nature truly abounding in her gifts. She imposes heavy burdens on the agricultural classes and the peasants generally, and the country, on the whole, is one where sunlight cannot hide a certain austerity and hardness. The landscape is more often severe and bleak than luxuriant and delightful. What it is interesting to point out is that the Spaniards have

THE TYPEWRITER PRISM.

AN INGENIOUS DEVICE TO ENABLE THE OPER ATOR TO OBSERVE THE LINE HE IS

curious addition to the typewriter, called the "Typewriter Prism." was observed last week. is an ingeniously wrought scientific adaption of a well-known principle in optics, and its object is to render the writing of a typewriter visible to the operator as it is being written, thereby doing away with the necessity of lifting the carriage to inspect the work.

The principal part of the device consists of a prism of pure optical glass, as long as the line to be printed. It is carefully ground and polished, and is fastened to the carriage of the machine be-neath the impression roller. Two of its three sides

neath the impression roller. Two of its three sides are flat, and the third is a strong cylindrical convex curve.

The curved side is in view of the operator, and the writing is visible on its surface. Not only is it perfectly reflected, but by means of the laws of conjugate foci, according to which the prism lense is made, the writing is presented right side up, and in a normal position to the eye, magnified to any desired extent. The service is rendered complete by the attachment of a metal pointer, which shows the exact spot on which the next character written will appear.

THE LIGHT OF THE FUTURE.

STUDYING LIGHT-PRODUCING ANIMAL AND VEGE-TABLE LIFE.

Rene Bache in The Boston Transcript.

The incandescent electric light wastes and throws away is per cent of the energy utilized, only 2 per cent appearing in the shape of light rays. On the other hand, the light emitted by the firefly and the glow-worm wastes hut 2 per cent. In other words, the minual light is forty-eight times cheaper. In the course of recent experiments, Dr. Raphael Dubois, of Lyons, has made elaborate studies of a great many kinds of light-producing creatures. There is no lack of them in nature in fact, thousands of species possess this curious photogenic power. Not a few plants have it also, and among the latter may be mentioned certain mushrooms that grow in Brazil and Australia. Some of them give enough light to make it possible to read by the aid of a single specimen. The luminosity frequently seen in antumn in the forests on dead leaves or on bits of wood is due to fangl. The yellow flowers of the nasturtium emit a small amount of light. But in the animal kingdom the torch-bearers assume an immense variety of forms, from the minute organisms that are responsible for much of the ocean's phosphorescence, to the deep-sea fishes that carry lamps of their own and form endless torchlight processions through the otherwise black and gloomy marine abysses.

Many Jelly fishes are luminous, and so are some of the starfishes. A few earthworms are lightigivers and ammerous crustaceans have a luminosity of their own. One kind of shrimp has a brilliant circle surrounding the eye, which is actually in a luminous socket. A Europaan species of 'thousandlers' emits light in autumn. But no animals are better light-givers than certain insects, and even the ergs of some of these age luminous. From generation to generation the light-bearing creatures transmit the torch that is never extinguished, and which seems to have been lighted at the very dawn of creation. As for insects, a very minute species, found in parts of Europe, sometimes makes the surface of the ground luminous over considerable areas, congrega

A SCOTCH CHILD.

From Answers.

TOPICS IN PARIS.

CHRISTMAS, AND THE QUEER MARCHE . DU TEMPLE.

SOME GOOD BARGAINS-THE PLACE WHERE THE ARTISTS BUY DRAPERIES AND COSTUMES.

Christmas Eve is a fête in Paris, and the Grand Boulevard possesses a character distinctive of the occasion. Late in the evening the cafés become crowded, and the café-restaurants that are to keep open all' night for the Christmas "réveille begin to arrange their tables, many of which have been engaged in advance. The "reveillon," or Christmas Eve supper at midnight, is more important to the Frenchman than the Christmas dinner, and the indulgence in it may somewhat account for the general atmosphere of almost gloomy abstinence that seems to hang over Paris on first course, and any one interested in statistics may like to know that half a million dozen oysters were sold at the Halles last Wednesday and Thursday, and of ecrevisse, that appetizing crawfish 60,000 represents the number consumed during the "réveillon." Impecunious clerks and reckless Latin Quarter students go dinnerless, in the first intance a week beforehand, and in the second often a month afterward, that they may partake of a proper "révellion" in a restaurant that is usually closed to them by apparent bars of gold. thoroughly up-to-date Parisian divides his Christmas supper into many courses, taking each at a different place, and perhaps reaching home for the last cup of coffee, served in place of the "petit dejeuner."

Apropos of the "réveillon," there is an amusing story current just now that didn't, as many Quartier Latin stories do, come out of Murger's 'Scenes de la Bohème," because the "scene" is only a few days old and concerns American students. A young man, a recent arrival in Paris. subrented, a few months ago, a furnished studio from an acquaintance who was leaving Paris for a while. As he came to Paris via London, he had invested heavily in clothes, and on his arrival here wonderful bargains in rugs, draperies and costumes at the Marché du Temple caused him to plunge deeply into his remaining capital. A few days before Christmas his conclerge kindly but firmly informed him that his happy-go-lucky friend from whom he had taken the atelier was a year behind in his rent, and unless it was paid that week not only the furniture but his own effects would be taken. After ascertaining that the proprietor was legally right if not morally so in regard to his belongings, he confided his plight to several friends, who determined to come to his rescue. They did not invite him to a Christmas "reveillon," but invited him to invite them to one at his studio. Every one came, wearing large ulsters or the voluminous cloaks that students buy of the shepherds in the South of France and wear with grace in the streets of Paris. It was a bountiful supper that the host provided, but it did not account for the extra bulk that appeared on the shadow of each departing guest. Even the fox terrier, who had too much sense to bark, wore a new cloak, which on inspection appeared much like an Indian blanket strapped about with an antique girdle. The next morning the locataire went out on an early spin with his dress clothes tucked up under his bicycle rig, leaving merely an empty trunk and a coffee pot as a Christmas

"étrenne" for the sleepy concierge. I have mentioned the bargains at the Marché du Temple, and am reminded that this is a spot that is irresistibly attractive to the foreigner in Paris, it sounds very far away in point of time to refer to the Knights Templar, and the mighty citadel they erected in what was then an environ of Paris the citadel which afterward became a prison whence the hapless Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette made their journey to the guillotine; but we refer to the "Temple" in a flippant manner nowadays, and it has a meaning quite remote from that surrounding the home of the warrior-priests of the Middle Ages. Although nothing to-

seiler is willing to take for it eventually. There are no stalls, the wares being spread out on the square of floor allotted to each vender, and the more important positions are those near the wall, in which a series of small cupboards are built. From these extra stores may be brought out if sales warrant. The scene is apt to be a lively one during the arrangement of the stores and the blocking out of each stall. A loud and angry argument often goes on between two neighbors concerning the proprietorship of an extra inch or two, but the two stolld sergents-de-ville stationed in the place are always prompt to throw the weight of their authority on any troubled waters.

By 10 o'clock the place is crowded, and the steady stream of people passing up the narrow, crooked stairs includes many types. The workingman and grisette are there in search of bargains for a con-



templated menage; the type of Frenchwoman who ! tips her hat a bit more forward than do others and wears an exaggerated kind of cheap neck ruche is on the lookout to pick up some apology for an evening gown; the servant girl supposed to be on a family errand runs in in her cap and apron, with gain for a hat to wear on her very occasional "nights off": art students in search of old costumes, uniforms and various accessories, and English and American members of the student set on

A BARGAIN.

The whole ended with the following choken which ended with the following choken which ended with the following choken which ended with the following choken with the following chromatological properties and half and the following chromatological properties with the following chromatological pro prices exorbitant, and that you believe she is cheating you; but you must say it in a very nice way. Enthusiasm or nervousness is fatal. It is rarely wise to buy anything on a first visit, or, if one wishes to buy anything to be with a "nouveau." A morning at the Marché du Temple generally Leans a heavy cabload homeward, and although a greed for bargaining may not be nice to acquire, one may be sure of obtaining interesting experiences and seeing many curious French types.

ADJUNCTS TO THE DRUG STORE

THE GROWING LIST OF ITS GENERAL

tablishment thus designated. A drug store, besides may buy drugs, is also a place where one may buy so many other things that, in its general utility functions, it resembles the old-fashioned country store. Soap, perfumery, brushes, stationery, candy, cigars and soda-water have long held their places beside the rows of bottles which, with their unpleasant but necessary contents, were doubtless once regarded as the only legitimate drug-store stock. Later came the post-office supplies, and since they were introduced the drug clerks have been kept busy selling two-cent stamps and postal cards, the rate of profit on which, it may be assumed, will never greatly enrich the proprietors. It is true that, in some instances, the drug-store is made a regular branch post-office, in which case a monthly salary is paid to the owner. But this is so small that many druggists prefer to be entirely independent, and to keep the supplies only to oblige their customers. "Then we have no responsibility," said one recently, "and if we happen to be out of stamps, we don't feel as if we had committed a capital crime."

The use of the directory is another convenience offered gratis to the public, and it is one which involves more wear and tear on the store property in the course of the year than would be readily imagined. In this weather not the least of the discomforts attending it for those within the store is the frequent opening of the door and the consequent.

A SHABBY KIND OF BEGGING.

forts attending it for those within the store is the frequent opening of the door and the consequent admission of a wintry blast which sends shivers up

ined. In this weather not the least of the discomforts attending it for those within the store is the frequent opening of the door and the consequent admission of a wintry blast which sends shivers up and down the spine of each individual clork.

The telephone pay-station is the last introduction of all to swell the drug store's list of conveniences. It is in connection with this that one uptown pharmacy in this city has begun a messenger service which is unique, and which, if it should become widespread, might be a rival worthy the consideration of the American District Telegraph Company. The store in question sent out, not long ago, to those of its regular patrons living within a radius of a few blocks a circular advertising its new 'district telephone service.' This, being explained, meant that any telephone messages which might arrive at that station for any of the above-mentioned patrons would be delivered immediately active at that station for any of the above-mentioned patrons would be delivered immediately active at the respective houses at the extremely moderate tariff of five cents each. The plan was at once received with much favor, and now forms a recognized and important branch of the store's business. Most of those who is downtown to their families. Some message is delivered commends the plan are wonderful discause; the words, and the words, and the words, and the words and the mistress of the house. The promptness with which such a message is delivered commends the plan as uperior to any other on account of an important evening engagement. Again, it is to announce their intention of bringing home friends to dinner, and thus to give an excuse for their non-appearance at dinner on account of an important evening engagement. Again, it is to announce their intention of bringing home friends to dinner, and thus to give a highly appreciated warning to the mistress of the house, are all the time required. The properties of the store, to deliver messages more than six or a superior to any other words, an



CHRISTMAS EVE ON THE GRAND BOULEVARD.

day marks the site of the oid chance except for a blue ticket from a man at the top of the garden square—where the remains of the weeping and then give from a man at the top of the garden square—where the remains of the weeping and then give from a man at the top of the garden square—where the remains of the weeping and then give from a man at the top of the garden square where the remains of the weeping and the square where the remains of the weeping and the square where the remains of the weeping and the square where the remains of the weeping and the square where the remains of the weeping and the square where the remains of the weeping and the square where the remains of the weeping and the square where the remains of the weeping and the square where the remains of the weeping and the square where the remains of the weeping and the square where the remains of the weeping and the square where the remains of the weeping and the square where the remains of the weeping and the square where the remains of th willow planted by the little Duchesse a Angoulême during her imprisonment struggle for ex-istence—the word "Temple" is often heard, and really means the "Marché du Temple," where bad first-hand goods are sold on the first floor, and often excellent second-hand goods on the floor

above. ding wails of the "Archives Nationales," approach the Musée Caravalet, the former home of Mme. Sevigné, and follow streets that have known and suffered the quarrels and wars of kings and nobles, revolutionists and communists. There are here the sites of old prisons, many of them now turned into natural museums and libraries, brimming with enchantments; there are still quaint streets, with picturesque buildings and balconies, every one of which has a distinct and personal interest, and

churches, sometimes of architectural merit, and always full of historical suggestion. Once a patron of the Temple, one goes there for-ever, for the intexication of purchasing secondhand goods is not easily overcome. To look over a pile of Indian shawis (for every one purchases a cashmere shawl on a first visit) to select one, which, aithough you may not wish a shawl at all, because it makes a fussy kind of divan cover, easily put out of place, is finally purchased at such a ridiculous figure that it is fairly thrust into one's hand, is a positive exhibitation. To wind up by buying a bronze-mounted mirror for 10 francs after having brought down the price from 10, and to meet a friend who proclaims that it was offered to him for 8, is to be covered by a shame that can only be erased by another visit and more successful bar-gaining. The second-hand market takes place on Sunday morning, the rest of the week probably being spent in bargaining for the stock in trade. and the quick transition from a buyer depreciating the ware she lauds to the skies the following day suggests an amusing contrast. But these women are quick-witted above everything else, and chaff their customers good-naturedly, noting every ex-pression that may indicate just how much the ar-ticle is desired, the price being adjusted accordingly. Of course, it is always at least double what the

day marks the site of the old citadel except a fit up a temporary home. They all pay one so side him-a waste of labor characteristic of frugal

France.

The narrow spaces between the rows of venders serve as alses, and in a general way goods of a certain class are grouped together. Near the door is an important-looking woman with a rosiness of complexion that has so little in common with her wrinkled skin that the red appears to stand out from it as quite a thing apart. She hardly speaks to her neighbors and is strangely haughtly, even to customers, but is evidently prosperous, to judge by the large diamond earrings, the coquettish lace



SOME CUSTOMERS.

coming Mit-Careine and tone-from those in which they made their debut.

At another stell are fancy shoes and slippers, often bizarre and always coquettisn in cut and trimming. How many pas seuls have they assisted at one wonders, and why and for what were the pret-

cap and the cape of rather shabby but yet real ermine thrown over her shoulders. She presides over a pile of second or perhaps fourth hand fur capes and sacques; and the person under the tilted hat, forced to look here for fresh evening array, evidently knows her well, and perhaps also some of her wares. At the next stall is a collection of her wares. At the next stall is a collection of her wares. At the majority of the costumes will appear again at the majority of the costumes will appear again at the majority of the costumes will appear again at the morning Mi-Carème at dance hails slightly lower in tone—not moral tone—from those in which they made their debut.

At another stall are fancy shoes and slippers. At another stall are fancy shoes and slippers, often bizarre and aliways coquettish in cut and trimofine, How many pass seals have they assisted at one wonders, and why and for what were the pret-

NOTES OF A RICH MAN.

SOME PECULIAR BEGGARS AND THEIR ODD PERFORMANCES.

Sir Richard Tangye, in "Chamber's Journal."

Experience shows that beggars are of various kinds; for, as in the old days there were footpads and mounted highwaymen, so now there are beggars on foot and beggars on horseback. Indeed, I have known them to come on begging expeditions riding in vehicles of various kinds.

On one occasion a man rode up to my house on a tricycle, and, premising that I knew his father, requested me to give him money to buy a horse, as he found cycling too hard work, and his doctor had ordered him to take equostrian exercise.

Another man, dressed as a gentleman, an entire stranger, sent in his card desiring to speak with me. When I appeared he greeted me with the greatest familiarity, as though he had been an intimate acquaintance, and at once proceeded to ask me to lend him a couple of pounds to take him to London. Of course I declined, and on showing him out I found he had a cab at the door, the charge for which from the nearest cabstand would have nearly paid his railway fare.

On another occasion a young man came to thank me for having rendered some pecuniary assistance to his brother while on a voyage to Australia, and promising to repay the loan advanced by me. Befor leaving, the young gentleman requested and obtained a little loan on his own account, and the I O U which he gave me in due form is, I observe, nearly twenty years old, and is still unredeemed.

QUEER BEGGING LETTERS.

As a rule, begging letters are not pleasant reading; but the most objectionable are those from persons who vigorously protest that they are not begging—indeed, that they would not accept charity; but being in want of temporary assistance they would like a loan, at fair interest, purely as a business transaction. As a rule, such people never intend to repay. But here is a man with no scruples on theipoint—he will either take money as a gift or as a loan, and this is what he says: "I am a young man, twenty-five, wanting a start in life, which I can get if I can obtain a loan or gift of f60 at once. I would rather borrow than beg, but do not wish you to think I would insuit you (!). Hoping I shall not appeal in vain for a start in life, and asking for an immediate answer, I am, etc.

life, and asking for an immediate answer, I am,"
etc.

A man, describing himself as a "monumental sculptor" in a considerable way of business, writes: "The writer of the inclosed letter is a haif-sister of mine, but I know little of her, as for years she has been an invalid. I am sorry to say she seems a poor, thoughtless, helpless creature. I ask you in her name if her case comes within your kind benevolence?"

"A Workman" asks me to send him money to enable him to huy a pair of boots; but his letter was so saturated with tobacco that I declined, telling him if he could afford to buy tobacco he could afford to buy boots.

Some years ago a firm of auctioneers wrote to my solicitors, informing them that they were commissioned to sell a property adjoining one of the public parks, and suggesting that the matter should be put before me in the hope that I should buy it, and thus "add another to my many bountles to the public."

Give, give, he always giving:

Give, give, be always giving. Who gives not, is not living. The more you give, The more you live.

The more you live.

Thus saith the leech's daughter.

Gratitude is not always shown for help rendered, but here is a genuine example of it, although expressed in peculiar phraseology: "The humble petition of T— O— showeth that your petitioner his ever greatfull for your benevolence threw the sick vissiter in my illness and as on dutey bound shall ever pray."

Various are the forms of begging. A good woman once sent me what she called "an alliterative carol," which ended with the following choice lines:

lieve.

It is said that "Freedom's battle once begun" must needs be continued "from sire to son," and so it seems to be with begars; if you once yield to their solicitations, it becomes very difficult to shake them off, for they appear to look upon your charity in the light of a vested right which you are not entitled to discontinue without their consent. I have recently received a letter from a man to whom I have occasionally given relief, and this is what he says:

THE GROWING LIST OF ITS GENERAL

UTILITY FUNCTIONS.

The name "drug store" or "pharmacy" entirely falls at present to give any adequate idea of the establishment thus designated. A drug store, besides being, as its title would indicate, a place where one may buy drugs, is also a place where one may buy drugs, is also a place where one may buy any other things that, in its general utility functions, it resembles the oil-fashioned country functions, it resembles the oil-fashioned country store. Soap, perfumery, brushes, stationery, candy, and shall alway to go to London to be fitted, and wait at least a day to get it right. I ought to go satisfact the state of any to get it right, I ought to go as a stationary but I have not money enough. The

A SHABBY KIND OF BEGGING.

A CONSIDERATE CORRESPONDENT.

How considerate some people are! Here is a tempting offer from an unknown correspondent:

"Dear Sir: I venture to siggest that you should appoint me your Almoner. I know you are a very busy man, but I have an abundance of time on my hands, and wave been accustomed to dispensing the charity of others. Hoping to hear from you."

So much for beggars of the middle and working classes: the ordinary street beggar belongs to an entirely separate and independent organization. He has a language and a system of his own by which he informs his fellows of the "ratable value" of towns and of the dispositions of individuals living en his line of march. Official investigations have shown that begging has been the profession of the same family for several generations in succession, and although they always protest they are anxious to work "if they can get it," a very casual examination of their hands reveals the fact that they never used them in manual labor. Many of them manage to live uncommonly well. A beggar once called at my sister's house and declared, with a whine, that he was starving; my sister offered him the half of a loaf, but this he spurned and said in anything but a whining tone. "I'm not bread hungry:"

It would be possible to extend these experiences ad infinitum, but I will close with an aneedote I once read of a rich man who too readily complied with demands similar to those I have described, and who came to grief and poverty in consequence. His friends made a collection on his behalf, and he spent a portion of the money in causing a monument to be prepared for his own grave. On that monument was a figure holding a "chopper" in its hand, and this was the inscription beneath:

He who gives ways all before he is dead,
Let him take this chopper and chop off his head. A CONSIDERATE CORRESPONDENT.